

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A piezoelectric ceramic body comprising:
  - a plurality of insulating layers situated one over the other, the insulating layers being composed of a piezoactive ceramic material; and
  - internal electrodes separating at least portions of the insulating layers from each other, at least a part of at least one of the internal electrodes containing a silver-containing material, the material of the at least one internal electrode having a component which at least one of reduces and inhibits a diffusion of silver from the at least one internal electrode into an insulating layer.
2. The piezoelectric ceramic body according to claim 1, wherein the component contains a piezoelectric ceramic component.
3. The piezoelectric ceramic body according to claim 2, wherein the ceramic component includes  $\text{Pb}(\text{Ti}_x\text{Zr}_{1-x})\text{O}_3$ , where  $0.40 < x < 0.60$ .
4. The piezoelectric ceramic body according to claim 1, wherein the material has an AgPd alloy as a main component.
5. The piezoelectric ceramic body according to claim 4, wherein the alloy contains at least 70 percent per mass Ag.
6. The piezoelectric ceramic body according to claim 1, wherein the component is present in a concentration of a maximum of 50 percent by volume, with respect to an overall volume of a material of the internal electrode.
7. The piezoelectric ceramic body according to claim 1, wherein the component contains at least one of:
  - rare-earth metals including at least one of La and Nd;
  - subgroup elements including at least one of Nb, Ta, Fe and Ni;
  - alkali metals including at least one of Li, Na and K; and

6 alkaline-earth metals including Sr.

1 8. The piezoelectric ceramic body according to claim 7, wherein the at least one  
2 of the rare-earth metals, the subgroup elements, the alkali metals and the alkaline-  
3 earth metals are used as dopants at a concentration of less than 8 Mol%, with  
4 respect to a material of the internal electrode.

1 9. The piezoelectric ceramic body according to claim 1, wherein the internal  
2 electrodes are electrically conductive and are composed of an AgPd alloy.

1 10. The piezoelectric ceramic body according to claim 9, wherein the internal  
2 electrodes are further composed of a PZT ceramic modified by at least one of: rare-  
3 earth metals, subgroup elements, alkali metals and alkaline-earth metals.